

---

## EP001 – Pesticide Use

---

### 1. Intention

To ensure that the Shire meets its environmental, legal and community obligations for pesticide use on land it administers in a manner that is environmentally, socially, and economically responsible.

This policy also ensures that pesticides are applied in the Shire's parks, streetscapes, and conservation reserves in accordance with the relevant legislation, guidelines and industry best practice.

### 2. Scope

The Policy applies to the application of pesticides to all Shire managed land and buildings. Shire Staff and contractors engaged in the application of pesticides within Shire managed land are required to comply with this Policy.

### 3. Definitions

**Pesticides** refers to all herbicides, insecticides, and fungicides.

**Integrated Pest Management** is a pest management program based on chemical and non-chemical pre- and post-treatment control methods.

**Herbicide** is a chemical substance used to control unwanted plants.

**Insecticide** is a substance used to kill insects.

**Fungicide** is a chemical compounds or biological organisms used to kill fungi or fungal spores.

**Safety Data Sheet (SDS)** means a document that provides information on the properties of hazardous chemicals and how they affect health and safety in the workplace.

### 4. Statement

The Policy reflects current best practice for pesticide management in the Local Government Authority environment in Western Australia whilst incorporating community views and ensuring sound risk and contract management.

#### 4.1 Implementation

The shire will include the use of chemical and non-chemical application methods as part of all pest and weed control programs. When using pesticides, the Shire will adhere to the following principles:

- Apply pesticides on the basis of risk management, good contract management and auditing results;
- Work within specific time frames suitable to the location;
- Inform the community and provide timely notification of pesticide application events;
- Consult other government agencies and local stakeholders when pest control activities have the potential to impact on environmentally significant land, water catchment areas, farming property or other sensitive area of activity; and

- Comply with all applicable legislation, codes, and this policy with respect to pesticide application by the Shire and its contractors.

## 4.2 Risk Management

Prior to the use of pesticides, an annual assessment of risk will be conducted for specific and collectively similar locations whilst considering the following background issues:

- The size of the program and the financial, physical, and human resources available to support it.
- The extent to which the Integrated Pest Management methods are used.
- The level of skill and experience in weed and pest control held by Shire employees.
- The adequacy of information held by the Shire on pesticides used in the pest control programs.

The identification and assessment of risks associated with the use of pesticides will be undertaken for:

- Each specific location to be treated with pesticides; and/or
- Collectively similar locations to be treated with pesticides.

## 4.3 Public Feedback & Notification

Notification of pesticide applications are based on the principle that people who live or work in or visit an area have the right to know when public places are treated with pesticides. Notifying people about pesticide applications means that they can make informed decisions about entering a public place.

The community will be given the opportunity to provide feedback on this Policy, and pest control plans. All pesticide applications will be available from the Shire. The three levels of communication are summarized in the below table:

Table 1: Summary of pesticide notification communications

Document/ Action	Communication Frequency	Mode of Communication	Outcome Sought
Pesticide Use Policy	Once only prior to implementation	Review and feedback through shire website	Public Feedback
Pesticide Notification Plan	Periodically/ Annually	Review and feedback through shire website	Public Feedback
Pesticide Applications	As requested	Available upon request	No response sought.
No Spray List	Ongoing	Subscription via Shire office phone, email and or “report it” application	Public Feedback/ subscription

As part of the feedback process, residents will be given the opportunity to register on the Shire’s “No Spray List”. This list allows individual owners to register their property so that the footpath and verge adjacent to the property are excluded from receiving chemical-based pesticide application.

The ‘**No Spray List**’ is to be routinely updated, where those already on the list will be contacted by either email, phone or in writing to confirm their details or change in circumstances.

#### 4.4 Implementation of the pest control program

All pesticides applications will be conducted by Shire employees and contractors trained in the safe and effective use of pesticides. All operators involved in the application of pesticides will be provided with well-maintained application equipment and personal protective equipment that is appropriate to the specific pesticide product being used in accordance with the product label and Safety Data Sheet (SDS).

### 5. Roles and Responsibilities

The Infrastructure and Development Services department are responsible for publication, implementation, and compliance of this Policy and will be utilised for their expertise in the event of the need for clarification.

The Manager Works & Waste Services will be ultimately responsible for the implementation of the pest control program.

### 6. Dispute Resolution (If Applicable)

All disputes regarding this policy will be referred to the Director Infrastructure and Development Services in the first instance. In the event that an agreement cannot be reached, the matter will be referred to Council for resolution.

### 7. Legislative and Strategic Context

This policy complies with the following legislative instruments:

- *Western Australian Health Act 1911 – Health (Pesticides) Regulations 2011;*
- *Government of Western Australia Department of Health - A guide to the management of pesticides in local government pest control programs in Western Australia;*
- *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 (Commonwealth); and*
- *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Western Australia) Act 1995*

### 8. Review

This policy will be reviewed for applicability and effectiveness, and consistency with relevant legislation, Council resolutions, and other Council documents triennially or as required.

### 9. Associated Documents

Other documents that have an association to this policy and that may be useful reference material are:

- Pesticide Use Notification plan.
- Integrated Pest Management Program
- No Spray List

<b>Division</b>	Infrastructure
<b>Policy Number</b>	EP001
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Director Infrastructure & Development Services
<b>Related Legislation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Health (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1911</i></li> <li>• <i>Health (Pesticides) Regulations 2011</i></li> <li>• AS 2507-1998 The storage and handling of agricultural and veterinary chemicals</li> </ul>
<b>Related Shire Documents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pesticide use Notification Plan</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrated Pest Management Plan</li> <li>• No Spray List</li> <li>• Safety Data Sheet (SDS) Register</li> <li>• Hazardous Substances Register</li> </ul>					
<b>Risk Rating</b>	Moderate	<b>Review Frequency</b>	Triennially	<b>Next Review</b>	June 27
<b>Date Adopted</b>	23/04/2024				OCM24/04/048

Amendments		
Date	Details of Amendment	Reference
Click or tap to enter a date.		
Previous Policies		